

DORMAN TRIES TO CUT COSTS

Harry Dorman, director of the state department of
finance, is finding out how difficult it is to cut expenses
in government. The jovial appearing man who has dedi-
cated himself to paring costs of running the state has
come to the conclusion that he can't lop off thousands
here and thousands there in bold sweeps. He has to cut
small items wherever possible so that those small items
will add up to large figures.

His position stated early this week on the cost of ex-
cessive furnishings of state-owned homes at certain insti-
tutions in Oregon was an example of what he is trying to
accomplish.

Dorman said the homes in question, renting for \$85 a
month, were being equipped at state expense with frills
that were unnecessary. He cited such frills as top grade
dishes, appliances like waffle irons and expensive coffee
makers, down or foam rubber pillows, linens, towels, sil-
verware and expendable kitchen utensils. These items
alone, he contended, were costing the state about \$745
for each home, over and above the other expenses of
furnishings normally expected in a furnished place. If
this \$745 figure were extended for each of the 40 homes
at state institutions, the expense for frills would amount
to \$30,000.

But for suggesting that such savings could be made,
Dorman received criticism. The contention was that
such frills were necessary to help meet the pay scale
for doctors and technicians at the institutions in Califor-
nia and Washington. But Dorman properly countered
that if the state were trying to hide any salary disad-
vantages in such frills, it was making a mistake. The
claim of salary disadvantage is one that should be checked,
too. The furnishings for the homes should be only the
necessities and not frills such as carving sets and the like.
California, for instance, has eliminated expendable kitchen
equipment from furnishings at institution homes.

Dorman's attempt at bringing some economies in state
institutions is not directed at individuals. It is directed
at getting the costs of government in black and white
figures as to salaries and expected furnishings. The
rental figure, which happens to be \$85, should be the
proper rental figure and not one that covers rent and
frills, too. That present \$85 figure includes a nicely fur-
nished home, the food for the doctors and superintendents
and their families that the commissaries handle, lawn and
grounds care and utilities.

Dorman is not hampering the buying of proper food
for the operation of state institutions. His interest is
in seeing that such institutions, as part of the expense
of running the state, are run on a sound, economical basis.
For that, he doesn't deserve criticism.

Dorman should have full cooperation in his attempts
at cutting costs where such cutting of expense is sensible.
If he doesn't get such cooperation, his attempts will seem
mild compared to what the legislature that meets in Jan-
uary, 1953, will do. The state deficit in the two-year
period from 1953 to 1955 has been estimated from \$40
to \$80 millions.

'GOOD OLD UNCLE JOE'

Joseph Visarionovich Djughashvili—known throughout
the world as Generalissimo Stalin, prime minister of the
United States of Soviet Russia, became 72 years old today.
Communists the world over are celebrating it with fan-
fare as a substitute for Christmas.

As head of the Red hierarchy even the communist
churches in Russia and the satellite states have replaced
the paintings and statues and icons of Jesus and the saints
with those of Stalin, while gigantic pictures and statues
of the dictator are everywhere.

The radios day and night echo Stalin's might and glory.
If the people must worship a god, it must be Stalin, hence
the elevation to immortality of the anti-Christ, as the
supreme deity, with a fake gospel of peace based on
bloody purges and slave camps.

Stalin's 72nd anniversary was comparatively a quiet
one, not to be compared with the tremendous celebration
staged throughout the Red world on his 70th birthday.
But the Soviet press observed it with announcements of
the awards of Stalin prizes for "strengthening peace
among the people."

The six winners announced are Mrs. Monica Felton,
housewife British novelist; Anna Seghers, a German
novelist; Pietro Nenni, leader of the procommunist fac-
tion of the Italian socialist party; Jorge Amado, a Bra-
zilian author; Kuo Mo-Jo, president of the Chinese acade-
my of sciences, and Ikuro Oyama, Japanese professor.

Prizes to each are a gold medal, 100,000 rubles (equal
of \$25,000 at the Russian official exchange rate), and
world recognition as favorites of world communism
whether they want such recognition or not.

Stalin was presumed to be spending the day at his
desk in the Kremlin, but as his movements are kept secret,
he may have spent it at his winter resort in southern Rus-
sia. His public appearances have been fleeting. His
health is reported good for a man his age, but no new
photographs are being printed—only the touched up ideal-
ized old ones depicting him in glowing health.

With his elevation to totalitarian godhood, Stalin has
had to assume the powers that go with it, and has pretend-
ed supreme creative powers as well, having discovered
that he is the inventor of every device known to civiliza-
tion and the greatest genius the world has possessed in
art, literature and science—as well as the greatest of
conquerors of his fellow men.

"And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,
That one small head should carry all it knew."

Boys Will Be Boys Dept.

Ottawa, Dec. 21 (AP)—Viscount Alexander, Canada's govern-
or-general, has fulfilled a long-standing ambition—to slide
down a fire station's brass pole.

It happened over the week-end at a fire station where he
opened an exhibition of Christmas toys made by Ottawa
firemen.

As he was leaving the station Viscount Alexander spotted
the brass pole on the second floor, used by firemen to reach
the main floor in a hurry.

"I have always wanted to go down one of those things,"
he confided to Fire Chief Gray Burnett.

The chief invited him to go ahead.

To the astonishment of spectators on the main floor the
governor-general suddenly arrived among them—via the
brass pole.

BY BECK

Popular People



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

What Is Christmas?

By HAL BOYLE

New York, (AP)—What is Christmas?

It is the time when people's hearts ring like bells. And legend says that oxen kneel in their stalls at midnight in memory.

Christmas is the anniversary of one kind of faith. It is the natal date of a lonely Jewish carpenter who in 33 short years of breath stamped an undying conscience on this world and promised all men life everlasting through belief.

He died a radical upon a cross for what he taught, bleeding slowly to death from the agony of nail and spear wounds. Few listened to his message in his day. He died a minor gadfly to a Roman world.

One of many martyrs to many faiths, time has raised Jesus Christ to a gigantic stature, so that today more than 600,000,000 people, one-fourth of all mankind, celebrate his memory. More men follow him than any man who ever lived. In the 1,951 years since his birth he has become the greatest religious figure in history.

What is Christmas? It is his spirit and his philosophy—that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Today the celebration of his birth, as is his death, is crossed with old pagan ceremonials. But his spirit and his example inflame the day.

Some times religious leaders get cross with Santa Claus and say he takes the honors that belong to Jesus. But no one who has read the life of Christ could ever think of him as being jealous. Santa is just HIM with a beard on.

Perhaps, if Santa Claus pressed his views 365 days a year, as

Jesus did—he might, even in these enlightened days, risk a similar persecution.

What is Christmas? It is the time of letting-go of hidebound prejudices and having the courage to be sentimental and good. It is the time when men take down a cold unfeeling star from the sky and make it a warm and stirring beacon on a tree.

Mainly the grownups say, "Christmas is for the kids." But they themselves enjoy it most, although often they are oddly ashamed to acknowledge it. In December their crust of foolish sophistication—the crust they grow to protect themselves from disappointment—wears thin. They light a silent candle to an old belief, that most men really do wish each other well but don't know quite what to do about it.

What is Christmas? It is a season when they can cast away their mutual doubts and really do something for one another. The Jews, who regard Jesus as only a prophet, have their own festival this time of year. It is called Chanukah, the festival of lights. It lasts eight days. On each day they light another candle, give another gift.

The other day a Jewish friend of mine, whose children go to a public school and love the festival of Christmas, told me the plight of his young daughter.

She came to her father and said: "Daddy, I was chosen to be an angel in our Christmas play, but do I have the right to play it?"

And her father, knowing her problem, said: "Honey, be their angel." I think that is Christmas—and America.

Sooner-or-Later Department

Bedford, Ind., Dec. 21 (AP)—Thomas Todd, who wanted to sell his house trailer, put a "for sale" advertisement in the Bedford Times-Mail, but responses all came from persons who wanted to rent it.

He advertised again, in the "for rent" classification. The first call came from a man who wanted to buy it, and did.

Not Lucky Twice

Newington, Conn., Dec. 21 (AP)—Five years ago Mrs. Ida Swanson, now 77, fell from a third-story window while hanging clothes. She got up and walked into the house, unharmed. Recently Mrs. Swanson tripped on a twig and landed in the hospital.

Mikrographs

By MIKE FORBES

A GHASTLY THING has happened to us! We have discovered that they used some truth serum in our anesthetics. What a horrible thing to do to a newspaperman! So far there have been no tragic results. But the anesthetist has been wearing a smug smile!

THE MOST VALIANT warriors here in the constant fight for health are the Ladies. When they go to surgery they wear full makeups. Their lipstick is on perfectly, cheeks neatly rouged, every lock of hair in place, and they always smile. They can endure pain like an Apache brave!

HERE SISTER ANNA is considered the dynamo of perseverance and faith that has made the institution possible.

THE LITTLE Mennonite sister still is on active duty as a registered nurse. Her husband, James Hayward, passed away recently.

HERE SISTER ANNA is considered the dynamo of perseverance and faith that has made the institution possible.

ONE OF THE busiest fellows here is Louis Panguini, operating room attendant, who wheels the patients to and from the surgery. He operates an efficient taxi service.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to end our sojourn at this health factory without mentioning Sister Anna Duerksen Hayward and three other Mennonite deaconess nurses who started the hospital Dec. 3, 1916.

F. B. WEDEL was manager. The hospital was called the Deaconess Hospital. The other nurses were Sisters Marie and Martha Wedel, daughters of the manager, and Sister Justina Duerksen, Anna's sister.

THE ORIGINAL hospital

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Treasury Secretary Snyder Pays No Heed to Tax-finagling

By DREW PEARSON

(Ed. Note—Today Drew Pearson tells the story of tax collecting complacency in the treasury, in his series on how to pull wires and not pay taxes.)

Washington—It is either a political miracle or a tribute to his mousey personality that the man in charge of the bureau where most of the tax scandals have occurred, Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder, so far has managed to duck any large volume of criticism.

His cabinet colleague, Attorney General McGrath, has been the target for far more criticism—though less tax finagling has occurred in his justice department. In contrast, John Snyder is much closer to the tax picture, much closer to President Truman, and has held office much longer. However, he has traveled on his official routine blissfully ignorant—or else indifferent—to the fact that more crookedness was occurring in his department than at any time since the days of President U. S. Grant—perhaps more than at any time in history.

Personally Mr. Snyder is an entirely honest man. The idea that dishonesty would occur near him has and does shock him. Yet he does not seem to realize that part of honesty is not complacency but vigilance.

Secretary Snyder has been tenacious about the necessity of paying higher taxes in order to pay for our huge arms program. But he has not realized how he has knocked the slats out of his own tax program by failing to collect taxes on an honest basis. For, when people see tax-finagling at the top, tax-finagling is certain to spread at the bottom.

GRAVE EMBARRASSMENT

Mr. Snyder's failure may be due to a personal weakness, which, according to some people, isn't kosher to mention. However, when a railroad engineer drinks on the job he is fired, when a motorist drinks while driving he is jailed—especially if there has been a smash-up. Therefore, when one of the 10 top members of government, charged with collecting the nation's taxes with honesty and equality, drinks on the job, the public is entitled to know it.

For with Snyder at the wheel there has been a disastrous smash-up in our tax-collecting system.

Unfortunately, Secretary Snyder's periodic drinking not only has caused moments of embarrassment before the governors of the World Bank and at the French embassy, but sometimes has caused him to remain in bed away from his work for periods of time.

It happens that collecting taxes is a tough, day-and-night job, requiring vigilance and great strength of character almost 24 hours a day. It requires the eagle-eyed watchfulness that Henry Morgenthau became famous for. And Secretary Snyder, with all his personal honesty and all his good intentions regarding higher taxes, simply has not been alert. In fact, he has been a dismal failure.

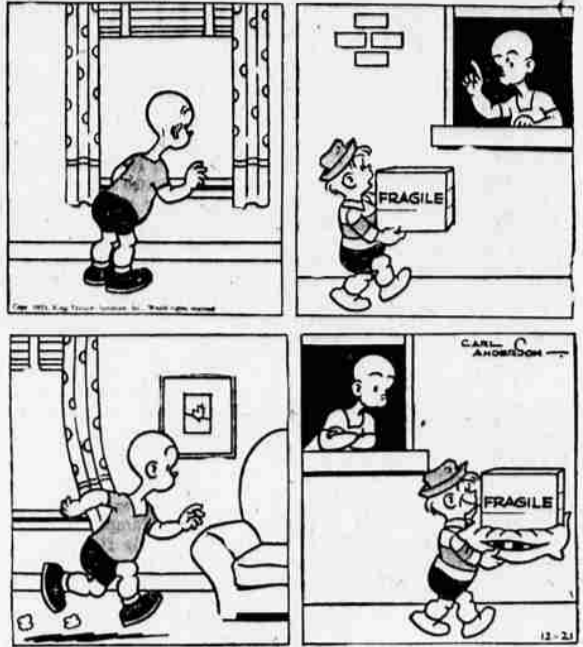
HITTING MIDDLE CLASS

Both in St. Louis where he was a bank cashier, and in Washington, Secretary Snyder has been a political conservative. He would be horrified at the idea that he had done anything to encourage communism. Yet history will probably show that, more than any other cabinet officer, he has helped plant what could become a basic cause for communism. For Snyder's unfair, unequal tax-collecting system is wiping out the middle-class of Americans, the normal bulwark against communism.

What Secretary Snyder may not realize is that, in Europe, the countries with the unequal tax systems are those showing the greatest leaning toward communism. Outside of Russia, the two countries with the greatest communist populations—about one-third each—are France and Italy. And in both countries the tax systems are notoriously unfair, unequal and dishonest. In both countries, the

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



Adding to His Score

Atlanta, Dec. 21 (AP)—Motorist Turner Galloway, 21, was late answering a summons to traffic court on charges of hitting a pedestrian.

His reason: On the way to court he got a summons from Patrolman E. C. Carter for hitting another pedestrian.

Plight of Child, 7, Stirs City To Adopt Her as 'Sweetheart'

By RICHARD CONNOLLY
Of The Portsmouth Herald
(Written for the Associated Press)

Portsmouth, N. H., Dec. 21 (AP)—A cheerful youngster of seven who may be doomed to a life of complete blindness and paralysis has become Portsmouth's "Christmas Sweetheart."

She is Carolyn Lee Plante, partially blind since birth and almost totally paralyzed from a recent attack of polio.

Carolyn lives in a Portsmouth nursing home so she can be near the rehabilitation center where she is carried each day for treatment.

Her father is dead and her mother, totally blind, lives in Rochester with Carolyn's brother, sister and grandmother.

She has been through a lot of suffering since last Christmas. In the past eight months she contracted polio, her eyesight grew worse, she had acute appendicitis, her tonsils had to be taken out and she got the measles.

She wears thick glasses and can read only big print. Her muscles are so weak that she can barely touch the tips of her fingers together.

A few days ago, the Portsmouth Herald published a story describing the child's plight. The paper pointed out that Carolyn, in view of her handicaps, should be given extra special attention by Santa Claus when he makes his visit Christ-

mas eve. Carolyn was unable to write her own letter to Santa Claus so the Herald printed a list of gifts she said she'd like.

Even before Santa could read the list, Portsmouth residents deluged the youngster with a flood of gifts in a spontaneous shower of affection.

She received such a large number of presents there's hardly any need for Santa to visit her this year.

That is unless the old gentleman can bring one gift to Carolyn, the courage to keep smiling through a life filled with continuous hardship.

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